



KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Grand Lodge Meets and Elects Officers.

The Order Shows a Healthy Growth in the Territory Since Its Establishment Here.

The grand lodge Knights of Pythias met on Tuesday of last week at Las Vegas for the transaction of the regular business of the lodge. Most of the lodges of the territory were represented, but there were a few which did not send representatives.

The delegates were welcomed on behalf of the city of East Las Vegas by Past Grand Chancellor A. H. Whitmore, who is also mayor of the city, and on behalf of El Dorado lodge No. 1, and Deagle Temple No. 1, Rathbone Sisters, by Past Grand Chancellor M. S. Hart. The addresses were responded to by Supreme Representatives C. E. Easley and J. J. Leeson, the substance of whose remarks was as follows:

On behalf of the grand lodge Knights of Pythias, of the grand domain of the territory of New Mexico, I have the honor and pleasure of responding to the able and eloquent speeches, extending welcome to us, by the gentlemen representing the citizens of the beautiful city of Las Vegas, and also the representatives of the local lodges of your city. I am free to admit and confess my utter inability to form words or construe language that would, to my satisfaction, answer the hearty and chivalric greeting and welcome that has been extended to us. To the citizens of Las Vegas we return our most sincere thanks, and they shall always be remembered with feelings of gratitude and pleasant recollections, especially as I have been informed that the mayor of your city instructed the jailor to lose the keys of the jail for three days that none of us might get in while here. To the Rathbone Sisters, that noble order, which today is doing more to elevate our order by its work, tenets and principles than any other organization in our land, we return thanks and extend greeting. Their noble work is based and founded on the three great principles of our order, F. C. and B. which have made it the greatest order in the world today for its age. Their work, mission and principles remind me of a man whom I once knew who, by unforeseen circumstances and fate, fell, step by step, down the ladder of social life until at last he had not a friend in the world left. Did I say none left? Yes, he had one—a woman—his wife, who loved him dearly. To explain more fully, I will exemplify his sad condition. Behold

the career of a man as he passes through this world, a man visited by misfortune! How often is he left alone, to sink under the weights of affliction, unheeded and alone! One friend of his own sex forgets him, another abandons him and a third betrays him; but woman, faithful woman, follows him in his afflictions with unshaken devotion. She ministers to his wants, even when her own are hard and pressing; she weeps tear for tear with him in his distress and is the first to catch and reflect a ray of joy should but one light up his countenance in the midst of his sufferings; and at last, when life and death come together, she follows him to the tomb with an affection which death itself cannot destroy. Such, friends and brothers, is what the Rathbone Sisters are doing for the members of our order today. They are elevating the social life of our brothers. They nurse the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the distressed and bury the dead. May God grant that the time may soon come when the wives, mothers, daughters and sisters of every member of our great order shall be enrolled as members of the Rathbone Sisters. To their noble order we also extend our sincere and heartfelt thanks; and last but not least we extend our sincere and knightly thanks to the officers and members of El Dorado lodge No. 1, the mother lodge in this great domain of our order.

The following representatives from the various lodges in the territory were present:

El Dorado lodge, No. 1, O. G. Schaefer, Thomas A. Roff, Jake Block, C. F. Bailey, J. S. Clark, Junot Minium, E. G. Murphy, M. A. Otero, C. C. Gise, C. E. Perry, A. H. Whitmore, M. R. Williams, G. B. Woods, Geo. Arnot.

Santa Fe lodge No. 2, C. F. Easley, J. W. Conway, A. J. Gusdorf, Charles Neustadt.

Rio Grande lodge No. 3, J. J. Leeson, M. W. Browne, A. Cortesy, E. L. Browne, J. H. McCutchen, A. Winkler, C. S. Bahney. Mineral lodge No. 4, L. H. Chamberlin, P. T. Isherwood, S. M. Saltmarsh, T. N. Wilkinson.

Harmony lodge No. 6, G. B. Beringer, J. E. Beringer, J. J. Murphy.

Lincoln lodge No. 7, not represented; Black Range lodge No. 8, not represented. Baxter lodge No. 9, E. G. Eubrick; R. E. Cowan lodge No. 11, B. F. McGarvey, Geo. Willis, Wm. Willis.

Silver City lodge No. 12, L. A. Skelly, A. D. Ross, Geo. W. Miles; Gallup lodge No. 13, W. F. Kuchenbecker, S. M. Brown; Carthage lodge No. 14, Robt. McKinley, Donald Stewart, James Richardson, Wm. Kilpatrick.

Vesper lodge No. 15, J. T. Williams, D. J. Jones; Justus H. Rathbone lodge No.

17, C. M. Hass; Magdalena lodge No. 18, C. C. Clark; Sierra lodge No. 19, L. Tressel.

Deming lodge No. 20, not represented; Eddy lodge No. 21, not represented; Columbus lodge No. 22, not represented.

The following grand officers were elected to serve during the ensuing term:

W. F. Kuchenbecker, grand chancellor; Robt. McKinley, vice grand chancellor; L. A. Skelly, grand prelate; P. T. Isherwood, grand master of exchequer; C. E. Perry, grand keeper of records and seal; J. W. Conway, grand master at arms; C. S. Bahney, grand inner guard; D. J. Jones, grand outer guard.

The Rathbone Sisters gave an entertainment on Tuesday evening which was followed by a banquet and ball at Rosenthal hall. The entertainment was excellent and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who had the good fortune to be present.

On Wednesday evening the Rathbone Sisters gave an exemplification of their work at the hall and there were 27 initiated. The banquet at the Depot hotel was attended by 130 people and lasted until an early hour in the morning.

Santa Fe was selected as the place for the next meeting of the grand lodge. The grand lodge of Knights of Pythias was organized ten years ago at Albuquerque with five subordinate lodges and a total membership in the territory of less than 250. There were two lodges in Santa Fe, one in Las Vegas, one in Socorro and one in Albuquerque. Now there are nineteen subordinate lodges in the territory and a total membership of over 1,100 knights.

Merchants here are beginning to get in their holiday goods and from present indications the stocks will be as large as they have been in former years. This is another indication that this part of New Mexico is not suffering from the financial depression so much as other portions of the country.

The streams in the Mogollon mining district are running now and it is probable that there will be plenty of water from this time to the end of winter to keep the mills running.

The rafters are being put on the normal school building, and it is expected that the roof will be completed within two weeks if the weather should continue favorable.